

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC 7 C09C3/04 C09C1/24 C09C1/02 C01B13/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C09C C01G C01B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, EPO-Internal, PAJ, CHEM ABS Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
✓ X A	GB 2 065 157 A (TROYFEL PRODUCTS LTD) 24 June 1981 (1981-06-24) claims 1,4,5 page 1, line 4-92 examples	31-38  1-30, 39-58
✓ X	US 3 133 023 A (VOGEL MARCEL J) 12 May 1964 (1964-05-12) column 1, line 10-64	63-65
✓ A	EP 0 949 217 A (CS SYSTEMES DE SECURITE C3S SO ;POZZETTO JACQUES (FR)) 13 October 1999 (1999-10-13) claims 1,2,4,8 paragraphs '0010!', '0015!', '0025!', '0026! tables 1,2	1-30, 39-58
	--- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*&amp;\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 July 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/08/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Rhodes, K

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
✓ A	US 6 203 768 B1 (MCCORMICK PAUL GERARD ET AL) 20 March 2001 (2001-03-20) cited in the application claims 1,3-6 column 2, line 5-18 column 3, line 30-48 examples 1,2	1-30, 39-58
✓ A	---- DE 21 21 769 A (WOSTOTSCHNIJ NI GORNORU) 30 December 1971 (1971-12-30) claim 1 page 3, line 7 -page 4, line 4	1-30, 39-58
✓ A	---- GB 1 004 570 A (ENGLISH CLAYS LOVERING POCHIN) 15 September 1965 (1965-09-15) -----	

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/BE 03/00033

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-65

Subject 1.1

Claims 1-30, 39-65 relate to a method, an industrial process, and an apparatus for reducing the size of particles or agglomerates of metallic compounds by flowing suspensions thereof through one or more magnetic fields. Also claimed are methods for evaluating the performance of said treatment.

Subject 1.2

Claims 31-38 relate to a method for increasing the colour intensity of a material, by incorporating metallic pigment particles or agglomerates, a substantial portion of which has an average size between 0.5 nm and 5  $\mu$ m. Also claimed is the material thus produced.

The two separate groups of invention are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept (Rule 13.1 PCT) for the following reasons: the common feature of the groups of claims is particles or agglomerates of metallic compounds, which are well known in the art.

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
GB 2065157	A	24-06-1981	NONE		
US 3133023	A	12-05-1964	NONE		
EP 0949217	A	13-10-1999	FR	2776945 A1	08-10-1999
			DE	949217 T1	05-10-2000
			EP	0949217 A1	13-10-1999
			ES	2145729 T1	16-07-2000
US 6203768	B1	20-03-2001	AT	200236 T	15-04-2001
			AU	710739 B2	30-09-1999
			AU	6727696 A	19-03-1997
			WO	9707917 A1	06-03-1997
			CA	2230443 A1	06-03-1997
			DE	69612390 D1	10-05-2001
			DE	69612390 T2	31-10-2001
			EP	0854765 A1	29-07-1998
			JP	11511208 T	28-09-1999
DE 2121769	A	30-12-1971	DE	2121769 A1	30-12-1971
			FR	2091759 A5	14-01-1972
			SE	376377 B	26-05-1975
GB 1004570	A	15-09-1965	BE	647891 A	